

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A telephone directory information modifying apparatus for modifying telephone directory information held and managed at a data center, comprising:

5 telephone number changing means, responsive to a telephone number change notification instruction, for changing a telephone number of a number changer in telephone directory information of a registrant who has registered the telephone number of the number changer.

10

2. A telephone directory information modifying apparatus for modifying telephone directory information held and managed at a data center, comprising:

registrant information extracting means,  
15 responsive to a telephone number change notification instruction, for extracting information about registrants registered in telephone directory information of a number changer; and

telephone number changing means for changing a  
20 telephone number of the number changer in telephone directory information of registrants who, among the extracted registrants, have registered the telephone number of the number changer.

25 3. The telephone directory information modifying apparatus according to claim 1 or 2, further comprising change notifying means for sending a change notification to

a registrant whose telephone directory information has been modified by said telephone number changing means.

4. The telephone directory information modifying  
5 apparatus according to claim 1 or 2, further comprising  
change confirming means for confirming in advance with  
respect to the number changer whether or not the telephone  
directory information needs to be modified, prior to  
modification of the telephone directory information.

10

5. The telephone directory information modifying  
apparatus according to claim 1 or 2, further comprising  
change confirming means for confirming in advance with  
respect to the registrant whether or not the telephone  
15 directory information needs to be modified, prior to  
modification of the telephone directory information.

6. The telephone directory information modifying  
apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said change  
20 confirming means permits the registrant to specify a time at  
which the telephone number change is to be performed by said  
telephone number changing means.

7. The telephone directory information modifying  
25 apparatus according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said telephone  
number change notification instruction is an instruction  
from the number changer.

8. The telephone directory information modifying apparatus according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said telephone number change notification instruction is an instruction  
5 from a portable telephone service provider.

9. The telephone directory information modifying apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said telephone number changing means changes the telephone number in the  
10 telephone directory information of the number changer to a new telephone number in response to the telephone number change notification instruction from the portable telephone service provider.

10. The telephone directory information modifying apparatus according to claim 1 or 2, further comprising telephone number difference reflecting means for causing a telephone number difference in the telephone directory information of a registrant with respect to whom the  
15 telephone number of the number changer has been changed, to be reflected in a telephone directory of the registrant's portable telephone.

11. A telephone directory information modifying  
25 method for modifying telephone directory information held and managed at a data center, comprising:

the step of changing, in response to a telephone

number change notification instruction, a telephone number of a number changer in telephone directory information of a registrant who has registered the telephone number of the number changer.

5

12. A computer-readable recording medium recording a program for causing a computer to function as changer telephone directory information retrieving means, responsive to a telephone number change notification instruction, for searching backup data which is a backup of telephone directory information of portable telephones, to acquire telephone directory information of a number changer, registrant information extracting means for extracting information about registrants registered in a telephone directory, from the telephone directory information of the number changer acquired by the changer telephone directory information retrieving means, registrant telephone directory information retrieving means for searching the backup data based on the registrant information extracted by the registrant information extracting means, to acquire registrants' telephone directory information, telephone number change recipient extracting means for searching the registrants' telephone directory information acquired by the registrant telephone directory information retrieving means for information about the number changer and regarding such information about the number changer as information with respect to which a telephone number change should be

10

15

20

25

performed, change confirming means for confirming, with respect to the number changer or a number-change recipient with respect to whom the telephone number change should be performed, whether or not the telephone directory information of the number-change recipient needs to be modified, telephone number changing means for changing a telephone number of the number changer in the backup data of the number-change recipient with respect to whom approval of the telephone number change has been confirmed by the change confirming means, change notifying means for transmitting change notification mail to the number changer and/or the number-change recipient, and telephone number difference reflecting means for causing a telephone number difference in the telephone directory information of the number-change recipient with respect to whom the telephone number of the number changer has been changed, to be reflected in a telephone directory of the number-change recipient's portable telephone.